

Bonneville, Butte, Clark, Custer, Fremont, Jefferson, Lemhi, Madison & Teton counties

## AREA DEVELOPMENTS

## **BONNEVILLE COUNTY**

- A large development area in northeast Idaho Falls has attracted many businesses. The Bentley Business Park is between the new Buzz Shop and the new Ron Sayer Nissan. The Buzz Shop is owned by Buzz Nielsen, who has been in the electronics industry for over 25 years. He has run his operation in Pocatello, also the Buzz Shop, for over 10 years. The shop specializes in custom car, home and marine audio, mobile video units, home theater, HDTV and security systems. Ron Sayer Nissan just finished its new, large sales and service facility. In time, its BMW sales and service will move to the previous Northgate Mile location and its Jeep and Chrysler sales and service will move to the previous BMW facility closer to downtown. There is still land available in the business park.
- Bowen Industrial Park, a 30-acre development that adjoins the Bentley Business Park, is the site of the new, large First Call Jewel facility, which moved from Northgate Mile. The new facility specializes in heating, air conditioning, electrical and plumbing sales, service and installation, but there is no longer walkin sales for small parts and pieces. Just down the road is the new East Idaho Public Health District, formerly Health District 7, which moved from downtown. The new \$5 million facility increased the service area by another 10,000 square feet. It includes family and community health services, which provide immunizations and reproductive services, nutrition services and health preparedness services, which deal with such ailments as asthma, cancer, diabetes, oral health, tobacco-related problems and tuberculosis. Environmental health, which oversees day care and food services, has a separate entrance. The building also has a large conference room. L&A Welding also rents space in the industrial park. Several other buildings are already built with some lease options. Additional land is still available for development. City services are available and the roads are completed.

- Bear Buddies recently opened in Idaho Falls, providing customers the opportunity to create custom teddy bears. With 20 options to choose from, customers stuff the bears and accessorize them in any combination they want. Owner Jeni Freeman, a former accountant, and her bears can be found next to Sarah's Candy Cottage in front of WinCo.
- Naturally Yours Gifts and More in Idaho Falls, owned by Gina Yagues, specializes in gift baskets, stuffed balloons, massage, hypnosis, Dead Sea products and essential oils. Hypnosis is available by appointment for stress reduction, smoking cessation and weight loss. Three credits away from getting her degree in naturopathic medicine, Yagues is trying something new after working 10 years at a local day care.
- DaVita Inc., an independent dialysis service company, is opening a new kidney care services center.
   The 6,000-square-foot facility in the Taylor Crossing Professional Park will serve individuals diagnosed with chronic kidney failure and disease. Dialysis patients will have access to flat-screen TVs, temperature-controlled chairs and purified water. The center also plans to be a leading provider of kidney information to high-risk populations.

## FREMONT COUNTY

Several years of work toward creating a health care center for low income residents in the Upper Snake River Valley is nearly complete. Robert Hodgen and almost three dozen volunteers prepared a building in St. Anthony for renovation, and the center should open in late January. The organizers landed a \$1.8 million federal grant earlier this year to finance center operations for three years. Fremont County is one of the 200 poorest counties in the country. The center will be known as the Upper Valley Community Health Services and will replace the Upper Valley Free Clinic, which operated at the Eastern Idaho Public Health District office in Rexburg and relied on volunteers. Recently that clinic was operating only one day a week. The new center, open five days a week, will serve everyone including the large popula-

- tion of uninsured and will charge using a sliding scale depending on income and family size. The center eventually will have three medical providers, dental and mental health services.
- A new RV park is planned to go in near the St. Anthony Sand Dunes. The project is still under study but has been received favorably by the Planning and Zoning Commission. The sand dunes area has needed a facility to handle the large number of outof-area visitors, especially in the summer. The 134-lot project will be named the Golden Sands RV Resort. The initial plan is to sell the lots, which average

about 4,500 square feet each, to individual owners who can then rent them to others like a timeshare. The park will be run by a homeowners association, which would oversee rules and maintenance.

See page 35 for the east central Idaho labor force and nonfarm jobs data table for October 2007.

Tanya Albán, Regional Economist 1515 E. Lincoln Road, Idaho Falls, ID 83401 (208) 557-2500, ext. 3587 E-mail: tanya.alban@labor.idaho.gov

## East Central Idaho Data—October 2007

Idaho Falls MSA Labor Force & Employment — Bonneville and Jefferson counties

				% Change From	
	Oct 2007*	Sep 2007	Oct 2006	Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
Seasonally Adjusted					
Civilian Labor Force	60,720	59,820	57,710	1.5	5.2
Unemployment	990	1,130	1,510	-12.4	-34.4
% of Labor Force Unemployed	1.6%	1.9%	2.6%		
Total Employment	59,720	58,690	56,200	1.8	6.3
Unadjusted					
Civilian Labor Force	60,770	59,690	57,800	1.8	5.1
Unemployment	820	780	1,200	5.1	-31.7
% of Labor Force Unemployed	1.3%	1.3%	2.1%		
Total Employment	59,950	58,910	56,600	1.8	5.9
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					ĺ
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs** - NAICS	52,460	52,780	50,940	-0.6	3.0
Goods-Producing Industries	8,500	8,490	8,400	0.1	1.2
Natural Resources & Mining	10	10	10	0.0	0.0
Construction	5,020	5,090	4,980	-1.4	0.8
Manufacturing	3,470	3,390	3,400	2.4	2.1
Food Manufacturing	1,000	940	970	6.4	3.1
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	300	290	260	3.4	15.4
Machinery Manufacturing	160	170	160	-5.9	0.0
Other Manufacturing	2,010	1,990	2,010	1.0	0.0
Service-Providing Industries	43,960	44,290	42,540	-0.7	3.3
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	13,610	13,580	13,500	0.2	0.8
Wholesale Trade	3,940	3,910	4,000	0.8	-1.5
Retail Trade	7,820	7,810	7,700	0.1	1.6
Utilities	60	60	60	0.0	0.0
Transportation	1,790	1,800	1,740	-0.6	2.9
Information	1,230	1,230	1,260	0.0	-2.4
Financial Activities	2,300	2,300	2,200	0.0	4.5
Professional & Business Services	5,660	6,200	5,790	-8.7	-2.2
Educational & Health Services	7,380	7,380	6,870	0.0	7.4
Leisure & Hospitality	4,400	4,550	4,730	-3.3	-7.0
Other Services	1,860	1,900	2,090	-2.1	-11.0
Government Education	3,620	3,300	2,590	9.7	39.8
Government Administration	3,900	3,850	3,510	1.3	11.1
*Preliminary Estimate					

<sup>\*</sup>Preliminary Estimate

<sup>\*\*</sup>Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month